

years, Carmen worked tirelessly to elect Democrats at the local, State, and national level. She attended every Democratic National Convention from 1948 to 2008, many as a delegate. In the mid sixties she served as the party's Southern California chairwoman, was a member of the Democratic National Committee, the first woman to chair the California Fair Employment Practices Commission, and a board member of California's coastal and fair housing commissions.

Carmen's passion for politics was equaled by her compassion and philanthropy. She was an active member of many organizations, including the Los Angeles Music Center, the Truman Library Institute, the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles, and the Women's Guild and Helping Hand of Los Angeles.

Carmen long served as a member of the board of directors at Cedars-Sinai, where she endowed medical and research chairs and founded the PROs, which funds the Louis Warschaw Prostate Cancer Center. Two years ago, at age 93, Carmen joined me on a tour of the Cedars-Sinai Emergency Room and Operating Room; I remember joking that she was the only person I knew who could get me to put on scrubs.

Carmen was also very generous to her alma mater, USC, where she and Lou helped to establish the Casden Institute for the Study of the Jewish Role in American Life and the Jesse M. Unruh Institute of Politics at USC. In 2003, Carmen endowed a chair in practical politics at the Unruh Institute so that students could learn about the nuts and bolts of politics as part of their political science education.

This world and Carmen's beloved State of California are much better places thanks to her passion, compassion, and commitment. On behalf of the people of California, I send my deepest gratitude and condolences to her daughters, Hope and Susan; her sons-in-law, John Law and Carl Robertson; her grandchildren, Jack Law-Warschaw, Cara Robertson, and Chip Robertson; and her great-grandchildren and many friends. We will all miss this dynamic force of nature and extraordinary woman.●

REMEMBERING PETER N. LETANG

● Mr. COONS. Madam President, I wish to honor the life and legacy of Peter N. Letang, Esq. For over 40 years, Mr. Letang was a prosecutor for the State of Delaware, a pioneer for justice who was respected and beloved by all those who had the pleasure to know him. Mr. Letang's courtroom achievements are numerous, from being instrumental in the State's first use of DNA for conviction, to handling many of the State's most highly publicized cases.

Peter was a Delaware legal powerhouse, but his courtroom achievements are only part of the man he was. He was a great friend, a tremendous storyteller and a warm and wonderful

human being. It is my privilege to honor his achievements, his spirit and the tremendous impact he had on the State of Delaware.

Peter believed in our justice system, and he devoted his life to ensuring it worked for all Delawareans. Day in and day out, he approached every case with a positive attitude and a willingness to help. He took tremendous pride in his work and earned the respect of his peers through his long career as a deputy attorney general with the Delaware Department of Justice and chief New Castle county prosecutor.

Our thoughts are with the entire Letang family, including his wife Debra, their children Nick and Samantha, his sister Lisa and his nieces and nephews Carson, Cooper and Cutter. The State of Delaware lost a great citizen in Peter Letang, but his legacy will long be remembered.●

REMEMBERING ROMEO BARRERAS

● Mr. HELLER. Madam President, today I wish to honor the life of Pvt. Romeo Barreras, a Nevadan and Filipino-American World War II veteran, whose recent passing is a devastating loss to the Silver State. As a member of the "Mighty Five," a group of veterans living in Las Vegas, Pvt. Romeo Barreras helped lead the fight to provide proper military recognition and compensation for nearly 24,000 Filipino World War II veterans. I am grateful for his service to defend democracy around the world and will continue to do everything within my power to ensure that Filipino veterans are honored for their sacrifices.

Pvt. Romeo Barreras fought bravely for our country and yet was not able to qualify for the military benefits he earned and deserved. That is why I introduced the Filipino Veterans Fairness Act, to establish a process for Filipinos who have fought alongside the U.S. military during World War II to work with military historians to determine eligibility for military benefits. We have a responsibility to ensure that individuals who served honorably alongside U.S. troops are recognized for their contributions to our Nation.

I am humbled to have known Pvt. Romeo Barreras. It was a privilege to work with him on behalf of all Filipino American World War II veterans. My thoughts and prayers go out to his family during this difficult time.

In memory of Pvt. Romeo Barreras, I will continue fighting to ensure that veterans and their families are properly thanked for their sacrifices. Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering the life of an honorable man who was dedicated to providing justice for deserving veterans.●

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL KEVIN K. CALLIES

● Madam JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to LTC Kevin K. Callies, upon his

retirement from the South Dakota Air National Guard. Lieutenant Colonel Callies has served as the financial manager for the 114th Fighter Wing in Sioux Falls, SD, since 2003. His career with the South Dakota Air National Guard has spanned a period of over 30 years.

Lieutenant Colonel Callies began his career in the South Dakota Air National Guard in 1977 as a traditional guardsman in personnel. In 1978, he transitioned to finance, where he would spend most of his career. In 1988, while working full time, he earned a bachelor of science in business administration from National College, now known as National American University. After almost 17 years of enlisted service, he received his commission through the Academy of Military Science in 1993.

Lieutenant Colonel Callies excelled in the field of finance, with positions in civilian pay, military pay, accounting, and budget. His superior knowledge of financial management has earned him numerous awards locally and nationally. In both 1997 and 2004, Lieutenant Colonel Callies's unit, the 114th Fighter Wing, was named Air National Guard Financial Management and Comptroller Office of the year. As one of the best financial managers in the Air National Guard, the National Guard Bureau and the Pentagon have sought out his expertise.

He served as a member of the Resource Protection Team, RPT, and held the position of commander from 1993 to 2002. While on the RPT he dealt with security issues related to the September 11 attacks, visits by the President, and forest fires. In 2002, Lieutenant Colonel Callies accepted a position as logistics manager, where he was in charge of all the activation activities, expeditionary combat support, and deployment functions of the 114th Fighter Wing during their deployment to Turkey to support Operation Northern Watch. After serving as logistics manager, he returned to finance and in 2010 was deployed to Haiti to assist with a Joint Command financial management mission with the U.S. Army.

It is an honor for me to share Lieutenant Colonel Callies's accomplishments with my colleagues and publicly commend him for his hard work and the many years of dedicated service he has given the South Dakota Air National Guard and our Nation. I wish Kevin a happy and healthy retirement with his wife Joyce and their four children.●

TRIBUTE TO GENERAL TARBET

● Mr. LEE. Madam President, today I wish to honor one of Utah's finest, MG Brian Tarbet, the Adjutant General of the Utah National Guard. After 12 years of leadership with the Utah National Guard and 39 years of highly decorated service in the United States Military, General Tarbet is retiring, closing a transformative chapter in Utah's history.